



Hector De La Torre

News Release

Assembly Member 50th District

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WaterReuse Association Honors De La Torre with the 2008 Gordon Cologne Award

Newport, CA- The WaterReuse Association at its annual conference, honored Assemblymember Hector De La Torre with the 2008 Gordon Cologne Award for his dedication to the advancement of water reuse in California.

Each year, the WaterReuse Association presents the Gordon Cologne Award to recognized individuals who have made an outstanding contribution in promoting water recycling in California.

"Assemblymember De La Torre's hard work on behalf of AB 1481, enacted in 2007 makes him the perfect recipient of this award," said Bill Jacoby, president of the WaterReuse Association. "The Gordon Cologne Award honors advocates at the state and federal level that work in the regulatory and legislative worlds to advance water recycling in California."

Background:

As the author of the Porter-Cologne Act and the first lobbyist for the WaterReuse Association, Gordon Cologne had great respect for protecting and expanding the state's current and future water resources. He knew that properly treated recycled water was not only beneficial but also vital to California's water supply stability and worked tirelessly for many years to expand opportunities for water recycling throughout the state.

Assemblymember Hector De La Torre authored Assembly Bill 1481 that requires the state Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) on or before July 31, 2009, to adopt a General Permit for use of recycled water. It requires the SWRCB to consult with interested parties when developing a permit and eligibility criteria, which under existing law will occur at least every five years.

Recyclable water is a critical component of California's water supply future. Currently, only a half-million acre-feet of water per year is recycled in California (nearly 67 percent is used for agricultural and landscape irrigation) falling far short of the state's goal.

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